

VZCZCXRO0991  
RR RUEHDE  
DE RUEHIL #2889 1831236  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 021236Z JUL 07  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0194  
INFO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 3430  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 2158  
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0019  
RUEHNK/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 0022  
RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 1604

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 002889

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STATE FOR L/DL KRISTINA DAUGIRDAS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: PAKISTANI RESPONSE TO CAMEL JOCKEY CONFERENCE IN  
UAE, JUNE 26-27

REF: STATE 86406

11. SUMMARY: Poloff met with Khizar Hayat Khan, Joint  
Secretary at the Ministry of Interior, a GOP participant at

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the UAE-hosted Camel Jockey conference in Abu Dhabi, June  
26-27. Khan is preparing a longer analysis of the GOP's  
expectations from the bilateral MOU for his Minister and  
promised to share it with us later this week. Currently,  
however, the GOP seems quite satisfied with the proposals and  
framework developed with the UAE regarding  
compensation/rehabilitation of the Pakistani children freed  
from servitude as camel jockeys in the UAE. Response to  
specific questions detailed in reftel follow. END SUMMARY.

2.a) Does your government expect all former child camel  
jockeys to use the compensation process established by the  
MOU? Yes, but the GOP foresees a process that involves  
rehabilitation as well as compensation -- something with a  
longer-term impact on the child, the family and even the  
community.

b) If a former child camel jockey does not pursue  
compensation through the MOU claims process, does the MOU  
permit the child or his parents instead to seek compensation  
in your country's courts? In the courts of the UAE? In the  
courts of third countries, including the United States? The  
GOP will allow those who do not wish to pursue compensation  
under the MOU to appeal directly to the Secretary of the  
Ministry of Interior for relief. Failing that, they may  
register a case in the Pakistani court system.

c) If a former child camel jockey requests but is denied  
compensation through the MOU claims process, does the MOU  
permit the child or his parents then to seek compensation in  
your country's courts? In the courts of the UAE? In the  
courts of third countries, including the United States? The  
same process as above will prevail, appeal to the Secretary  
of the Ministry, then registration of a court case in  
Pakistan.

d) If a former child camel jockey requests and receives  
compensation that he or his parents believe is inadequate,  
does the MOU permit the child or his parents then to seek  
additional compensation in your country's courts? In the  
courts of the UAE? In courts of third countries, including  
the United States? Same process -- appeal to the Secretary of  
the Ministry, followed by a court case in Pakistan.

e) If the claims facility does not in fact operate in  
accordance with the MOU, will court actions that would

otherwise be barred by the MOU become permissible? Yes, if the facility fails to operate as envisioned in the MOU, the government of Pakistan reserves the option of initiating court action (on behalf of the children) against the UAE in Pakistani courts or at an international forum.

f) What steps is your government taking to ensure that the child camel jockeys (and their parents) are aware of the claims process and to facilitate the filing of claims? In addition to media (radio, television and print) campaigns, the GOP will request local religious and social leaders in the affected areas to strongly promote the process. The GOP will create mobile teams to visit the areas where the camel jockeys were recruited to explain the claims process and help process claims. The GOP already has a list of several hundred child jockeys repatriated from the UAE in the past few years, so they know the general magnitude of the problem at hand.

g) Would a lawsuit in the United States seeking compensation for former child camel jockeys have any impact on the implementation of the claims facility or of the UAE-UNICEF program in your country? It would be difficult to say at present. Such a move could complicate the MOU process and may slow down the compensation/rehabilitation process.  
PATTERSON